

## Unusual events spark energy and excitement

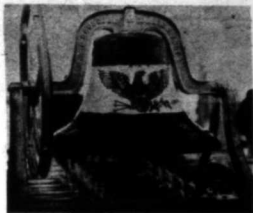
Imagine walking through the streets of Leningrad in the Soviet Union and seeing labels made exclusively for K mart. It's not an unlikely possibility.

When the Russian hockey team came to the United States to play N.H.L. teams at the Capital Center Arena in Landover, MD they stopped off at store 3089.

The players and their families filled the city's K mart shopping for bargains.

When Assistant Manager Calvin Roberts left 3122, Newport News, VA one Thursday to take a day off, no one expected him to do anything unusual. However, he returned to work Saturday morning a married man.

The new Mrs. Roberts didn't appear for the store's daily meeting, but staffers felt they had to honor the couple just the same. So her bridegroom was greeted with the traditional shower of rice . . . a bit belatedly.



Liberty bell is on display at 4334.

K mart 4334, Erie, PA is commemorating the Bicentennial this year with a special liberty bell that's on display in front of the store. The bell was lent by a generous customer, and dates back to 1892. Trainee Jim Scott added an eagle and painted the bell red, white and blue.

Marion Waterhouse, 4458, Falmouth, ME was recently presented with a \$200 bond at the store's fourth anniversary party. Marion was honored for winning the Eastern Division Contest for best 605 recovery girl.

K mart 3318, Weirton, WV is proud of one of their staffers, for good reason. Part-timer Gerard D'Alesio was re-elected vice president of his student body at Fairmont State College. Earlier this year, he was named to the "Who's Who" among students in American universities and colleges.

The ambitious young man is a 1973 graduate of Madonna High School and currently majors in



Gerard D'Alesio

business administration. He performs well as checkout supervisor at 3318.

The big day had arrived in Crofton, MD. The Krofton Kuppies waited in anticipation for the appearance of store 3277.

To their manager's dismay, only one eager player from 3277 showed up for the baseball bout.

After recovering from their initial shock, the Kuppies decided not to call a forfeit game. They instead divided up their group and generously invited the lone player to join the game.

Better luck next time, boys.

A new hot item at K mart 3071 in Toms River, NJ is the Jarrow, a safe play toy for all ages. Made from soft polyurethane wings, a plastic body and a rubber nose cone, the object is expected to give Frisbee sales some real competition. Dave Marsico, former assistant manager in toys thinks there will be a lot of Jarrows on the beaches this summer. It's sure to be a popular item on the youth scene.

Elmer Glass, the first staffer to retire from store 4113, Erie, PA was honored at a surprise retirement party recently. Glass served as a store greeter for the past 10 years.

The crew at 4448, Salem, NH enjoys each other's company during work as well as in leisure time. The group chartered a few buses to transport 96 excited fans to a Boston Red Sox game June 1.

Seeing a major league game is always a thrill, and this was even more so, 'cause the Red Sox were the American League pennant winners of '75.

## Eastern Regional News

### Staffer's son gains eyesight

Two-and-a-half-year-old Billy Mravintz now enjoys healthy eyesight. The skills of a special doctor and the concern of a local men's group helped make it possible for him to enjoy a brighter future.

Billy is the son of Regis Mravintz, stockroom manager of K mart 4010, Pittsburgh, PA. Just one week after birth, the little boy underwent cataract surgery. This was followed by four more technical surgical procedures to correct problems which complicated normal vision.

If Billy had been born 10 years ago, he very well may not have received the expert care he was able to. But he was fortunate to be one of a growing number of children who are benefitting from recent progress made in infantile eye diseases.

Dr. David Hiles, a talented pediatric ophthalmologist, attended to Billy. The surgeon has assisted in more than 500 cataract operations on week-old infants. He has contributed much to the literature of this area, and teaches at the University of Philadelphia Medical School.

The extensive series of operations would be a financial drain on any family. For Mravintz and his wife, this was particularly so.

### Jewell's joined plant parenthood

Arbor Day lasts all year at store 4483, Annandale, VA, because of a tree that has become as much a part of scenery as staffers themselves. The False Aurelia which brightens the landscape of the front registers is known as the protégé of Checkout Supervisor Jewell Wooten. She has nurtured the tree for two and a half years and watched it grow to six feet.

The Aurelia started life out humbly in a three-inch pot on the outdoor patio. Now it enjoys an important status in a large decorator pot. A handcrafted sign bearing the legend "Jewell's Tree — Definitely Not For Sale" alerts hopeful plant lovers who want to make it their own.

The "mascot" of 4483 is such a conversation piece that Jewell has been offered \$50.00 for it. She accepts compliments for her green thumb. But she also directs buyers to the outdoor patio, where they can buy one of Aurelia's younger brothers and sisters.



Billy and his parents, 1 to r, say "Thanks" to Louis Vidie, Sr., president of the Lions and William Cenk, the club's sight chairman. Valley News Dispatch photo

In addition to having four other children, the couple has opened their home to foster children. The West Deer Lion's Club, which has a sight conservation program, decided to step in and help out, contributing donations to meet expenses.

The Lion's Club recently held a dinner meeting featuring Dr. Hiles as speaker for a large audience of West Deer's medical community. Billy and his parents were guests at the event. The little boy won the hearts of the whole group, radiating a happy smile as Dr. Hiles introduced him.

After discussing the progress made thus far in infantile eye surgery, Hiles added that advanced methods enable the young patients to go home a day or two after their operations.

Sight Chairman William Cenk presented the doctor with a bronze plaque and personal gift in recognition of his achievements. The Mravintz family knew that they had received an even greater gift . . . Billy's precious gift of sight.



Jewell Wooten and her prize Aurelia